

GENERAL ORDER

NON-UNIFORMED OFFICERS

This order establishes policies regarding the use of non-uniformed officers in traffic and crowd control situations, and the requirements for identification.

I. POLICY

- A. **DEFINITION.** A non-uniformed officer is any officer who is not wearing the prescribed S.F.P.D. uniform.
- B. **ARRESTS/IDENTIFICATION.** Before making an arrest, detaining a suspect, conducting a search, serving or executing a warrant, or issuing a citation, non-uniformed officers shall display their police star or other official identification. When requested, non-uniformed officers shall promptly and politely provide their name, star number and assignment.
- C. **TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT** (also see DGO 9.01, Traffic Enforcement).
 - 1. **TRAFFIC STOPS/CITATIONS.** Non-uniformed officers shall not initiate traffic stops, issue traffic citations or make minor traffic arrests except:
 - a. When the activity is related to an ongoing criminal investigation or regulated vehicle enforcement, e.g., taxi cabs, shuttle buses, limousines.
 - b. When witnessing an aggravated situation requiring immediate action to protect life or property, e.g., drunk driving.
 - 2. **BACKUP UNIT.** When making a traffic stop under the circumstances described above (except for regulated vehicle enforcement) non-uniformed officers shall immediately request a marked backup unit.
- D. **CROWD CONTROL.** Non-uniformed officers shall not be used to make arrests in crowd control situations unless there is reasonable cause to believe there is a danger to life or the possibility of great bodily injury (see DGO 8.10, Guidelines for First Amendment Activities and SFPD Crowd Control Manual).